

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SALT MEETING MAY 18, 1973

REF: USDEL SALT TWO II 0197 AND 0198

1. SUMMARY. SUBSEQUENT TO STATEMENTS BY JOHNSON AND SEMENOV (REPORTED REFTELS), NITZE, ROWNY, AND KLOWWON RESPONDED TO SOVIET QUESTIONS OF MAY 15. SHCHUKIN THEN ASKED QUESTION ON US VIEWS ON SLBM AND BOMBER QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS AND TRUSOV ADDRESSED FBS. NEXT MEETING MAY 22. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER JOHNSON AND SEMENOV DELIVERED FORMAL STATEMENTS (SEE REFTELS,) ROWNY REPLIED TO TRUSOV MAY 15 QUESTION REGARDING SOVIET PROPOSAL TO BAN ALBMS RECALLING US POSITION THAT US CANNOT CONSIDER LIMITS ON BOMBER ARMAMENTS WITHOUT CONSIDERATION OF LIMITS ON AIR DEFENSES, ROWNY SAID THAT, IN CONTEXT OF AGREEMENT ON AGGREGATE CEILING OF 2350 ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCERS AND HEAVY BOMBERS, WITH APPROPRIATE PROVISIONS FOR FREEDOM- TO- MIX AND LIMITATION OF THROW- WEIGHT, US WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER BAN ON BALLISTIC, CRUISE, OR OTHER TYPE ASM' S WITH RANGE GREATER THAN 3000 KM.

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3. KLOSSON, IN ANSWER TO GRINEVSKY QUESTION, REPEATED US VIEW THAT PERMANENT AGREEMENT SHOULD INCORPORATE IN APPROPRIATE WAY INTERIM AGREEMENT PROVISIONS CONCERNING MLBM LIMITATIONS. HE SAID THAT, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE ESSENTIAL EQUIVALENCE IN CENTRAL SYSTEMS IN PERMANENT AGREEMENT, THE MANNER IN WHICH SUBJECT MATTER OF INTERIM AGREEMENT ARTICLES 1, 2, AND 3 SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN PERMANENT AGREEMENT WILL DEPEND UPON ADEQUACY OF MRV/ MIRV LIMITATIONS INCORPORATED IN PERMANENT AGREEMENT.

4. IN ANSWER TO BELETSKY' S QUESTION ON US VIEWS ON SOVIET PROPOSAL TO BAN SLCMS DESIGNED TO STRIKE LAND TARGETS, NITZE SAID US PROPOSAL DOES NOT INCLUDE LIMITATION ON SLCMS. HE ALSO NOTED THAT SOVIET SIDE HAD NEVER RESPONDED TO US QUESTIONS ON SLCMS RAISED ON DECEMBER 12, 1972.

5. SHCHUKIN, RECALLING THAT SOVIET SIDE PROPOSED QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS ON BASIS EQUAL SECURITY PRINCIPLE, ASKED FOR US VIEWS ON WAYS TO ESTABLISH QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS ON OTHER OFFENSIVE SYSTEMS, PARTICULARLY SLBMS AND STRATEGIC BOMBERS, LEAVING ASIDE THE ESSENCE OF THE US MRV/ MIRV PROPOSAL FOR THE TIME BEING.

6. TRUSOV, CITING US MAY 15 STATEMENT ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN " CENTRAL" AND CERTAIN OTHER SYSTEMS WHICH CAN BE VIEWED AS AFFECTING STRATEGIC EQUATION, ASKED HOW US, IS ESTABLISHING LEVELS, INTENDS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF SIDES' GEOGRAPHY, AS WELL AS FBS, CARRIER- BASED AIR, AND SLBMS OF US ALLIES.

7. JOHNSON SAID US DISAGREED WITH SOVIET SIDE AND HIS MAY 15 STATEMENT ON NON- CIRCUMVENTION WAS DEFINITIVE ANSWER TO TRUSOV QUESTION. JOHNSON

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